

**ABSTRACT**

A method including topically administering an effective amount of local anesthetic to a patient is disclosed. The method is effective for inducing analgesia for treating non-neuropathic pain. Non-neuropathic pain suitable for treatment according to the invention includes pain associated with sports injuries; sprains; strains; soft-tissue injury; repetitive motion injury; carpal tunnel syndrome; injury to tendons, ligament, and muscles; conditions such as fibromyalgia, bursitis, chondrochondritis, myofascial pain, and pain associated with arthritis, inflammation, contusions, post-surgical pain, and nociceptive pain. Preferably, the lidocaine is applied via a transdermal patch applied near the locus of pain.